

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A transaction supporting apparatus supporting making payment of a transaction made between a buyer and a seller, said apparatus comprising:
transaction-detail registering means for registering details of ~~a transaction~~the transaction,
including information about a credit card account of the buyer;
payment information notifying means for notifying ~~a buyer~~the buyer of payment
information including information about a bank account of the seller into which the buyer is
requested to transfer money by other means than the registered credit card account before a
specified deadline expires;
payment confirming means for confirming whether ~~payment of the transaction~~the
requested money transfer has been made by the other means than the registered credit card
accountn-account specified in the payment information by a deadline also specified in the
payment information to the seller's bank by the specified deadline; and
charging means for charging for the transaction via ~~a credit card when~~the credit card
account of the buyer only if said payment confirming means confirmsfinds that the payment
requested money transfer to the seller's bank account by the other means than the registered
credit card account has not been made by the deadline.

2. (Currently Amended) The transaction supporting apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising means for sending to the buyer a reminder message which reminds the buyer
of payment when the payment confirming means confirms that payment has not been made by
the deadline,
wherein said charging means charges for the transaction via the credit card account of
the buyer when a given period described in the reminder message has expired.

3. (Original) The transaction supporting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for remitting to the seller an amount obtained by subtracting a given service fee from an amount paid by the buyer.

4. (Currently Amended) The transaction supporting apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising means for inputting card information necessary to charge for the transaction via the credit card, said card information being~~

wherein said information about the credit card account is information that a delivery service agent who delivers a product to the buyer directly obtains from the buyer at the time of a first transaction by the buyer.

5. (Currently Amended) The transaction supporting apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising means for making a transfer into an account of the buyer, initiating a money transfer from a specified bank account of the buyer to the bank account of the seller,~~

wherein said charging means charges for the transaction via the credit card account if said payment confirming means confirms finds that said bank account of the buyer does not have a balance sufficient to for the payment to be made by the buyer.

6. (Original) The transaction supporting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for requesting a home-delivery service agent to deliver a product purchased by the buyer and notifying the home-delivery service agent of information about the buyer, said information about the buyer including an address of a delivery destination.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting ~~making payment of a transaction made between a buyer and a seller, said method comprising the steps of:~~

registering details of a transaction the transaction, including information about a credit card account of the buyer;

notifying a buyer the buyer of payment information; including information about a bank account of the seller into which the buyer is requested to transfer money from the buyer's account before a specified deadline expires;

confirming whether payment of the transaction the requested money transfer has been made to an account specified in the payment information by a deadline also specified in the payment information the seller's bank account by the specified deadline; and

charging for the transaction via a credit card when the credit card account of the buyer

only if it is confirmed~~found~~ that the payment~~requested~~ money transfer to the seller's bank account has not been made by the deadline.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program ~~that causes~~for supporting payment of a transaction made between a buyer and a seller, the program causing a computer to function as:

transaction-detail registering means for registering details of ~~a transaction~~the transaction, including information about a credit card account of the buyer;

payment information notifying means for notifying ~~a buyer~~the buyer of payment information; including information about a bank account of the seller into which the buyer is requested to transfer money by other means than the registered credit card account before a specified deadline expires;

payment confirming means for confirming whether payment of the ~~transaction~~requested money transfer has been made to ~~an account specified in the payment information by a deadline also specified in the payment information; and~~ the seller's bank account by the specified deadline; and

charging means for charging for the transaction via ~~a credit card when~~ the credit card account of the buyer only if said payment confirming means ~~confirms~~ finds that the payment requested money transfer to the seller's bank account has not been made by the deadline.